

**SC-SIC Member Network Reset for 2014-15 School Year** – The online SC-SIC Member Network will be reset on July 1 to enable local SICs to begin reporting their membership information for the 2014-15 school year. Those accessing the Network (whether logging on as a designated user or using the “read-only” function) after that date will note membership information for 2013-14 has been highlighted. While the statutory deadline for reporting SIC membership information is not until November 15, designated Member Network users may begin entering their SIC’s information immediately if the SIC has conducted spring elections and have the information ready to go. Account users will have to update their log-in and password information for the new school year. Directions for this are available on the SC-SIC Member Network site accessible through <http://sic.sc.gov>, or by contacting SC-SIC Digital & Web Director Claudia Parnell by email at [cparnell@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:cparnell@mailbox.sc.edu). Also, if your school is a new or re-organized school not listed in the SC-SIC Member Network, email Ms. Parnell to assist you in getting your SIC established in the database.

**SC-SIC Board of Trustees Seeks Nominations** – The SC School Improvement Council Board of Trustees is a body composed of individuals from every region of South Carolina which serves in an advisory capacity to the SC-SIC office and staff. Board members are elected to three-year terms; vacancies for unexpired terms are appointed by the Board Chair. The Board will be conducting its annual elections in July for the Class of 2017, and seeks individuals willing to serve and assist the work of SC-SIC statewide. Current members of the Board represent a variety of personal and professional backgrounds (parents, educators, current SIC members, school board members, former legislators, and more), and the Board strives to maintain its diversity. This year, the Board is particularly looking for representatives from the Upstate (Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, Union) and the Lowcountry (Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Jasper) regions. If you know someone who has a demonstrated commitment to public education in their particular sphere of influence, or if you yourself are interested in serving on the SC-SIC Board, nominate that person or self-nominate for consideration for Board membership. Send a resume and letter of interest to SC-SIC Interim Executive Director Tom F. Hudson at [hudsontf@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:hudsontf@mailbox.sc.edu), by **June 30, 2014**. More information on the SC-SIC Board of Trustees can be found on at <http://sic.sc.gov>.

**From the State House (compiled from various sources)** – The House and Senate adopted a compromise plan of the state’s FY14-15 appropriations bill on June 4. Items of particular note in the budget are:

- An increase in the base student cost (BSC) to \$2,120 (still shy of the mandated amount of \$2,742).
- The education funding reform plan of Gov. Haley is funded at \$180 million in the appropriations bill, with an added \$5 million in “hold harmless” funding so that no district receives less state funding through the new formula in year one than they did under the current formula. An additional \$1.5 million for “hold-harmless” money for charter schools under the statewide charter school district.
- Funding for the Center for Education Partnerships (CEP) at the USC College of Education – of which SC-SIC is a primary partner – is funded at the same level with Education Improvement Act (EIA) dollars as it is currently (\$715,933), with \$127,303 dedicated to SC-SIC. SC-SIC’s USC proviso funding (\$100,000) also remains constant for FY14-15.

The House and Senate will review Gov. Haley’s budget vetoes (which include very few pertaining to education) June 17-19.

In other legislation related to education, the Read to Succeed Act (S. 516), was signed into law by the Governor on June 11. This is comprehensive legislation enacted to increase the reading proficiency of K-12 students and local School Improvement Councils are to have a direct role in the development of school plans aimed at assisting students to reach reading standards. For more information on the Read to Succeed Act, click on the following link:

<http://sic.sc.gov/publicationsanddownloads/Documents/Clips%20And%20Quips/ReadToSucceed2014.pdf>

**SC-EPFP Now Accepting Applications for 2014-15** – The SC Education Policy Fellowship Program (SC-EPFP) – a 10-month professional development program for established and emerging leaders in education and related fields designed to work toward the implementation of sound education policy and practice in South Carolina – is now accepting applications **through July 25, 2014**, for the 2014-15 academic year. SC-EPFP operates under the auspices of the national Education Policy Fellowship Program (<http://epfp.iel.org>) of the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) in Washington, DC, which oversees Fellowship programs in over a dozen states and the District of Columbia. In South Carolina the program is coordinated by the SC School Improvement Council, located in the University of South Carolina's College of Education, with the assistance of the SC Department of Education's Office of Leader Effectiveness. SC-EPFP meets monthly September through June (primarily in Columbia) for a full day of dialogues, interactive exercises, small group projects, book discussions, and more. An overnight Leadership Forum is scheduled in the Fall and a four-day Washington Policy Seminar hosted by the Institute for Educational Leadership is held in the nation's capital in April. Educators may qualify for recertification or certificate renewal credits, and graduate credits may also be available. For more on the SC Education Policy Fellowship Program, including additional program information, application materials and tuition costs, visit the SC-EPFP page online at <http://sic.sc.gov/sceducationpolicyfellowshipprogram/Pages/index.aspx>.

***SIC Clips & Quips to Get New Look, New Name*** – After July 1, the SC School Improvement Council will stop sending out *SIC Clips & Quips*. But fear not! SIC members and others who share their email addresses with us will begin receiving a new periodic email update named *In the Loop*. Be on the lookout for this new offering, with a new look, a new name, but with info you've come to expect from C&Q.

Remember, *SIC Clips & Quips* is sent to all SIC members and supporters who share their email addresses with us. Please feel free to print out and share this information with fellow SIC members who may not have received it. We're here to help you, so please contact us any time!

*Claudia*

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